

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 11, 2004      LB 625, 818

have passed out. I have no interest in passing this legislation if NEOC will lose funding. All that I ask for is some actual proof from Mr. Whitaker instead of these last minute allegations. This information is very damaging and has implications far beyond LB 625. Mr. Whitaker claims that NEOC will lose more than \$400,000 in federal funding with no evidence to substantiate that assertion. If we, as a Legislature, are supposed to rely upon fiscal impact statements we receive from agencies, we need to be able to trust that that information is accurate and timely. Because of the issues that have been raised, I have had conversations with Mr. Whitaker, very last minute conversations, and I think that that reflects poorly on the relations of an agency to the Legislature and to what they believe is the role of the Legislature in setting policy. Mr. Whitaker actually said to me that he would be willing to discuss whether the agency should be in compliance with state law. I think that it's not an issue of his being willing, I think that he needs to be in compliance with state law. But I do have an amendment that I am looking at offering, and so because of that and because of some of the issues that have been brought up, I would ask that LB 625 be passed over for the time being. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You are withdrawing your motion, Senator Brown, to return to Select File?

SENATOR BROWN: Yes.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Withdrawing the motion, too, and the bill is passed over. (Doctor of the day introduced.) Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, with respect to LB 818, Senator Chambers would move to return the bill to Select File, that being to strike the enacting clause.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your motion to return to Select File for specific amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Brown withdrew her motion before anything was said by anybody else, so I'm using Senator Schimek's bill as a vehicle